

Skill of Writing an SOP

An SOP should ideally cover the following aspects:

- What is your long term career goal?
- What are you right now – fresh graduate / graduate with work exp / skillsets?
- How will an MBA equip you to progress towards your career goal?
- USPs of the college that you are looking forward to, to help you achieve your long term goal

DOs:

- Keep the language (vocabulary as well as sentence construction) simple
- There should be a logical flow that comes out distinctly from the SOP
- Get it proofread by at least 3 friends so that different qualitative as well as quantitative issues are sorted before the final copy is sent (While proofreading, it is important to check for spelling mistakes, construction issues, heaviness of vocabulary etc.)

Pasting a couple of sample SOPs below. The purpose of the same is to ensure a student understands the language, the flow and the way the various aspects are covered.

Avoid copy paste!

Some sample SOPs that we found online:

1. An engineering degree and a work experience of over 5 years have infused the required technical knowledge and analytical capabilities in me. These capabilities have been strengthened by working across varied business critical projects mapping high level business requirements to system requirements which mandated continuous interactions with the client. My onsite stint and role as a team leader have given me an opportunity to develop my leadership skills. I am now at that stage of my career where I would step into the shoes of a manager and be expected to have a holistic view in order to be able to perceive a business problem from multiple perspectives. A course in management from FMS, one of the premier institutes with an eclectic mix of core subjects and electives for each specialization, distinguished alumni network, international collaborations and state of the art facilities will help me in this regard and pave the path for an illustrious career in IT.

2. Pursuing by bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Bits Pilani has given a strong foundation to my analytical skills and strategic problem solving since the course involves extensive, complex and intricate designing of plants as well as calculations and application of basic mathematical skills.

I would like to use this knowledge gained in college to pursue my ambition of becoming an entrepreneur. In today's high growing and fast evolving Indian market I see several business opportunities for engineering start-ups (something in the lines of providing engineering solutions/consulting to firms both in India and abroad). I believe that the PG program offered by FMS would provide me with the fundamental business principles, learning experience and valuable industry interface which would help me gain practical insights into modern corporate world. Also, I am looking forward to interacting with some of the brightest minds in terms of faculty as well as fellow students learning from their experience, sharing my views and in the process grooming myself so that later I can be a team leader and lead projects. I feel FMS has an ideal environment conducive to the growth and development of my personality as an entrepreneur.

3. Having completed my engineering, I wish to study business management which shall provide me with the required knowledge to fully understand the various aspects of managing a company and assist me in achieving my long term goals.

Since many years i have had an interest in setting up a business of my own and work towards its progress. I share this interest with my father, who inspite of being from a service background has ventured into a couple of entrepreneurial projects in the past few years. Although still in the nascent stages, i am deeply interested in these businesses and see them as a beginning of an established and profitable venture. I feel that an education in business management will enable me to get fully involved and contribute substantially in the progress of these projects and subsequently towards the growth and expansion of the business.

I feel that being at FMS will provide me with an opportunity to study management not only from the

best faculty but also in an environment that would encourage healthy competition and exchange of knowledge and ideas. Being part of an intelligent and diverse peer group will greatly assist me in enhancing my decision making and managerial skills.

4. Self improvement is a continuous process and I firmly believe that one should always strive towards developing one's analytical, interpersonal and social skills.

After graduating in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, I worked in a leading Telecom company as an Operations and Maintenance Engineer whereby I provided real-time support for customer's cellular network. Later, I got an opportunity to work as a Network Planning and Optimization Engineer, on global projects and deliver them with high level of quality within stringent timelines. This helped me to acquire skills in leading, time and resource management.

But to learn the dynamics of the complex business environment and to attain managerial competence, a professionally designed MBA program is essential. FMS with its esteemed faculty, wide industry interface and diverse student community will not only play a significant role in empowering me with broad strategic vision but also ensure my development as a holistic and all-round manager.

Sample SOPs for FMS

Sample SOP 1:

In today's competitive world where innovations are being made almost every day, one has to be on his toes and make spontaneous decisions to stay in the completion. The scenario demands to exhibit effective leadership qualities and good problem solving abilities. Managing thus plays a vital role in today's corporate world. My long term career objective is to become an entrepreneur. A master's degree in management will hone my managing skills and will develop my thought process. It will provide me with the in depth theoretical knowledge and practical approaches to tackle a problem. It will also enable me to be perseverant and think beyond the obvious. I choose FMS for my MBA because it features among the Ivy League colleges of our country. Interacting with the best minds across the country will widen my intellect and refine my thought process. I look Forward to be a part of this prestigious college which will help me realize my goal.

Sample SOP 2:

I have always nurtured a dream of being a successful businessman, and for the same I strongly believe my pursuing an MBA post Engineering is the most logical step. I also feel perseverance and hard work are not sufficient to achieve success in life, but a good mix of connectivity with the right people & a persistent lookout for feasible ideas will play an important role. I think an MBA degree would just help me do that. FMS, undoubtedly, is one of the Ivy League colleges of India. I expect an unconventional learning approach and networking with some of the brilliant minds in diverse fields of the country. FMS is one of those colleges which would fulfil my aspirations and I assure, if selected, I shall make my alma-mater proud.

Sample SOP 3:

In the long term, I see myself being an entrepreneur in the field of education. However, I'm looking forward to starting a slightly offbeat venture. Offbeat, as it isn't education in the conventional sense. Instead, it would deal with teaching middle school and high school children how to work and improve logic as well as help children get a better hold of Science and Mathematics, conceptually. Along with this, the organization would also have a quizzing division, as that is my biggest passion. However, to a large extent, the quizzing initiative would be on a no-profit-no-loss basis, except for selective flagship (large-scale) events.

Studying at FMS, which is a premier B School, can help my idea gain shape as I will have the opportunity to discuss and refine my idea, as a business model, while retaining the values with which I envisioned it.

Sample SOP 4:

MBA is usually seen as a generic course where they say "a manager is a master of none and jack of

all". But I believe that if a manager is not there then the work of various fields would not have been integrated. I respect the field and profession of management and wish to contribute in its development to the best of my abilities. Having done my graduation in management, the above words are not only based on individual thinking but also learning and experience during the course. I was quite clear from the beginning that I wanted to enter the field of management and hence I opted for BBA as my graduation course. Decent academic and extra-curricular activities only made this vision stronger. Taking up leadership in group projects honed my interpersonal and communication skills. Graduation only introduced me to the subject of management. In order to gain more in-depth and practical knowledge, I wish to take MBA as my post graduation course before professionally entering the field. And I believe, the Institute with its experience faculty will help me in the same. The pedagogy and the excellent reputation of the Institute will provide me strong base for my career.

Sample SOP 5

The years of my graduation have not only provided me an insight into the technical aspects of the service industry but have also put forth my latent managerial capabilities through organizing of various events in the technical meets conducted in the campus. The penchant for learning different things smartly has honed my creative as well as analytical and logical skills. However at this juncture of my career, I realize the need to expand my knowledge and understanding of managerial aspects which will add a horizontal dimension to technical growth. IIM K with its excellent pedagogy along with its focus on team work is a natural choice for me. Its excellent industry interface, dynamic atmosphere because of a strong batch profile formed through a rigorous selection process is an added incentive. The pursuit of excellence in academics and co-curricular in this institute will definitely add a distinctive edge to my outlook towards the corporate world.

Sample SOP 6

Engineering studies have given me a technical grounding and helped me develop problem solving skills, but I understand that solutions to most problems today are seldom purely technical. Apart from that, I feel a proclivity towards management, which I experienced while organizing events at my college. Handling pressure and retaining equanimity during trying times, and having a sense of fair play are some of the abilities which have made me a better player. At this juncture of my career I realize the need to expand my knowledge and understanding of the various aspects of management and to add another dimension to my outlook of the corporate world. An excellent pedagogical structure with its focus on group work and out of box thinking coupled with its strong batch profile makes FMS a natural choice for me. Interacting and working with students from other fields will go a long way in developing and widening my vision.

Sample SOP 7

As the daughter of a gynaecologist with a private practice, since an early age I have seen my mother play the dual role of a clinician and an administrator. Today as an internist in a government hospital, I see how pivotal it is for the medical expertise and management skills to complement each other to ensure an efficient delivery of services. In the current scenario, when corporate culture has penetrated the medical fraternity, I feel that management know-how coupled with my medical background will help me in making my dream of converting this nursing home to a larger, more efficiently managed setup, a reality. Your institute, one of the premier managerial institutes in the country, has excellent courses to offer for an aspiring student like me. Hence an MBA from your institute will help me in acquiring the necessary skills and in fulfilling my goal.